

# Report

ON THE

## — HEALTH —

OF THE

### Castle Bromwich Rural District

FOR THE YEAR 1897,

BY

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Medical Officer of Health.

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# Castle Bromwich Rural District.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S OFFICE,

14, TEMPLE STREET, BIRMINGHAM,

*February 4th, 1898.*

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TO THE CASTLE BROMWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to hand you my Report on the Health of the above District for the year 1897.

The District consists of the following Parishes and Hamlets :—Castle Bromwich, Water Orton, Curdworth, Minworth, and Wishaw.

## AREA.

The Area of the whole District is 7,724 acres, made up as follows :—Castle Bromwich, 2,701; Water Orton, 623; Curdworth, 1,620; Minworth, 1,550; and Wishaw, 1,230.

## POPULATION.

The Census of 1891 showed the population to be 2,293, while in the middle of 1897 I estimate it to have been 2,452. I have been favoured by the Aston School Board with a copy of their annual enumeration of inhabited houses in those portions of the District comprised in Castle Bromwich and Water Orton, so that I have no doubt the estimate of population is accurate in these Districts; while in Curdworth, Minworth, and Wishaw there has, I believe, been but little change. I estimate the population of the District to be made up as follows :—Castle Bromwich, 890; Water Orton, 610; Curdworth, 292; Minworth, 480; and Wishaw, 180. This gives a density of population of 203 per square mile.

## BIRTHS.

Sixty-four births, 37 males and 27 females, have been registered, giving a birth-rate of 26·1. The birth-rates of the Sub-divisions were :—Castle Bromwich, 23·59; Water Orton, 18·03; Curdworth, 13·69; Minworth, 47·91; and Wishaw, 27·77. It will be observed that the birth-rate is below the average both at Water Orton and Curdworth, about nominal at Castle Bromwich and Wishaw, and very high at Minworth.

## DEATHS.

There have been twenty-eight deaths, viz., 13 males and 15 females, registered, giving the low and very satisfactory rate of 11·4 per 1,000. This rate is the more satisfactory because in 1896 it was phenomenally low, viz., 6·6, and it might have been expected, therefore, to have risen proportionately higher in 1897. The death-rates of the Sub-divisions were:—Castle Bromwich, 12·35; Water Orton, 6·55; Curdworth, 10·27; Minworth, 20·83, and Wishaw nil.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

Eight children died under one year of age, giving a rate per 1,000 registered births of 125. This figure is higher than in 1896, but may still be considered fairly satisfactory. The deaths were due to the following causes:—Measles 2, Premature Birth 3, Infantile Paralysis 1, Marasmus 1, and Rheumatism 1.

## ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

There were five deaths from Zymotic Disease, all of them from Measles, occurring 3 at Castle Bromwich, 1 at Curdworth, and 1 at Minworth. The disease was very prevalent in Castle Bromwich in the early summer, and was epidemic in the other parts of the District in November and December, and the schools at Castle Bromwich and Water Orton were closed in consequence, indeed nearly all the children in the District appear to have had the disease. There were notified under the Act 12 cases of Scarlet Fever, 1 of Typhoid Fever, and 1 of Diphtheria. The 12 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred 7 (6 in one house) at Minworth, 4 in different houses at Water Orton, and 1 at Castle Bromwich. As isolation was possible in all the cases, none were sent to hospital.

The case of Typhoid Fever occurred in a man who worked on the Sewage Farm, but on analysis the water at his cottage was found to be very largely polluted and tap water has been substituted.

The case of Diphtheria occurred at Water Orton in a new house. All the sanitary arrangements were good, and it may be remarked that the case was very mild and of short duration. The cost of notification was £1 15s. 0d.

## WATER SUPPLY.

The mains of the City of Birmingham have been further extended at Water Orton, to supply 10 new houses. I have analysed five samples of well water during the year, all of which were highly polluted, and measures were taken to improve the quality of the water, or to replace it by a supply from the Birmingham mains.

## NEW BUILDINGS.

Plans for ten new houses at Water Orton have been approved, and in addition plans for two alterations to existing premises. A plan has also been passed for a new blacksmith's shop at Castle Bromwich.

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The important scheme for sewerage Water Orton has been completed, and all the house connections made, and in this respect the village has been put into a thorough sanitary condition. Altogether 111 houses have been connected.

A new scheme for the proper sewerage of Castle Bromwich has been drawn up by Mr. J. E. Willcox, and has been adopted, and at the end of the year the necessary work for carrying it out has been commenced. I must call attention to the necessity of the proper measures being taken to thoroughly flush these new sewers.

#### VACCINATION.

This work has again been carried out efficiently by the Vaccination Officer, who can be congratulated on his Report, which appears in the appendix.

#### GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

During the year the Inspector has, at various times, visited the cow-sheds, slaughter-houses, and bakehouses, and has found them generally satisfactory. He has taken samples of food for analysis ; full details of this and other work appear in tabular form in the Appendix. In conclusion, I can again congratulate you on the present condition of the District, and express the belief that the large amount of constructive sanitary work, which has been, and is now being carried out, will still further improve the public health.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

A. BOSTOCK HILL, M.D., D.P.H., Camb.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*





*Table of New Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1897, in the Warwickshire portion of the Rural Sanitary District of Castle Bromwich, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.*

**B.**

POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.													
				(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	1	2	3	4	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	
NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics ; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	CASTLE BROMWICH	...	810	890	21	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	WATER ORTON	...	545	610	11	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	CURDWORTH	...	292	292	4	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	MINWORTH	...	466	480	23	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
WISHAW	...	180	180	5	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	...	2,293	2,452	64	Under 5 5 upwds	...	...	1	11	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District—Yes. Since when?—December, 1889. Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated—Aston Manor Joint Hospital, partly in Perry Barr and Erdington Urban Districts.

C.

Summary of Sanitary Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances Department during the year 1897,  
in the RURAL DISTRICT OF CASTLE BROMWICH.

								Inspections and Observations made.	Formal Notices by Authority.	Nuisances Abated after Notice.
Dwelling Houses and Schools	{	Foul Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1
		Structural Defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Unfit for Habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Cow Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...
		Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
		Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...
		Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
House Drainage	{	Ashpits and Privies	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	2
		Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Water Closets...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Defective Traps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{	No Disconnection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Other Faults	...	...	...	...	...	12	7	7
		Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Pigstyes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS								49	10	10
								Nos.		
Seizures of unwholesome Food								...		
Samples of Food taken for Analysis								...	5	
" " found Adulterated								...	0	
" of Water taken for Analysis								...	4	
" " condemned as unfit for use								...	4	
NOTE.—Where an inspection or notice embraces more than one defect it may be enumerated separately as regards each such defect.										
PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.										
Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed								...	7	
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease...								...	10	
Schools " " " "								...	...	
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease...								...	...	
Convictions " " " " "								...	...	
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things								...	...	
Convictions " " " "								...	...	

ERIC J. INSTONE,  
*Inspector of Nuisances.*



TABLE D.

WATER RESULTS OF ANALYSES.

Expressed in parts per 100,000.

No. of Water.	LOCALITY.	Date.	Total Solid Matter.	Ammonia Free.	Ammonia Organic.	Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites.	Chlorine.	REMARKS.
1	Mallens Grove, Dunton ... ..	Feb. 1st ...	148·0	·005	·009	3·30	17·8	Scarlet Fever occurred here.
2	Walmley Ash ... ..	Feb. 2nd ...	88·0	·008	·028	2·20	13·6	Ditto
3	Ditto ... ..	Ditto ...	172·0	·080	·060	4·84	11·5	Ditto
4	The Green, Castle Bromwich ...	Mar. 24th ...	222·0	·003	·032	12·65	20·8	Typhoid Fever occurred here.
5	Walmley Ash ... ..	Ditto ...	88·0	·002	·008	2·20	4·9	Scarlet Fever occurred here.

TABLE E.

Proceedings taken under the Food and Drugs Acts, 1875-9. Description of Samples taken for Analysis during the year.

No.	Date.	Article.	REMARKS.
1	December 13th	Butter ... ..	Genuine
2	„ „	Rum ... ..	Genuine
3	„ „	Pepper...	Genuine
4	„ „	Gin ... ..	Genuine
5	„ 15th	Milk ... ..	Genuine

# CASTLE BROMWICH RURAL DISTRICT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

F.

Return, showing the Number of Births Registered, together with the Number of such Cases successfully Vaccinated or otherwise disposed of in the above District during the year ending 31st December, 1897.

VACCINATION DISTRICTS.	No. of Births Registered during the year ending 31st December, 1897.	No. of these Cases successfully Vaccinated.	Insusceptible of Vaccination.	Died before Vaccination.	Cases under Postponement.	Removals to other Districts out of the Union.	No of Cases not to be found.	No. of Cases remaining Unvaccinated at date of this Return.
[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	[8]	[9]
Castle Bromwich ...	21	15	—	2	—	—	—	4
Water Orton ...	11	5	—	—	1	—	—	5
Curdworth ...	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	1
Minworth ...	23	18	—	1	1	—	—	3
Wishaw ...	5	2	—	—	2	—	—	1
Totals ...	64	43	—	3	4	—	—	14

NOTE.—As the Public Vaccination for Curdworth and Minworth is performed half-yearly, four of the cases in Column 9 had not attained the age for Vaccination at the time appointed in October last. (Two cases at Water Orton, three at Castle Bromwich, and one at Wishaw, were also under the legal age for Vaccination at the date of this Return.)

**J. J. STEPHENS,**

ASTON UNION OFFICES, VAUXHALL,  
4th February, 1898.

*Vaccination Officer for Aston Union.*